265 Highway 20 South Hines, OR 97738 541-573-4300

File Code:

Date:

1900

August 11, 2021

Dear Interested Reader;

United States

Agriculture

Department of

The Emigrant Creek Ranger District, Malheur National Forest is proposing to reduce and remove hazardous fuels in the Neighbor Wildfire Resilience project area. The Neighbor Wildfire Resilience categorical exclusion (CE) project is being prepared under guidelines contained in Section 605 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) (16 U.S.C.6591d). The Neighbor project would utilize thinning (to produce commercial or precommercial products) for wildfire prevention within a 400 foot wide border along portions of the Emigrant Creek Ranger District boundary. Up to 3,000 acres would be treated utilizing ground-based systems.

For additional information about this project please contact Lori Bailey or Melissa Ward at 265 Highway 20 South, Hines Oregon 97738, or telephone (541) 573-4300. Or visit the project website at https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57290 Questions or comments may also be emailed to the email address below.

At this time, it is anticipated that this project would be categorically excluded from documentation in an EIS or EA pursuant to 40 CFR 1508.4 and FSH 1909.15, Chapter 30. During this scoping phase of the NEPA process, we are seeking input, either verbal or written. We are interested in any issues, concerns or opportunities that you think need to be considered in the development of this project. This will be the only opportunity to comment on this project.

Please submit your comments by August 25, 2021 to Lori Bailey or Melissa Ward at 265 Highway 20 South, Hines Oregon 97738, or telephone (541) 573-4300. Comments may also be emailed to <u>comments-pacific northwest-malheur-emigrantcreek@fs.fed.us</u>. Thank you for your interest in the management of the Malheur National Forest.

Sincerely,







